

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /126 W
-----027745 231105Z /11

R 231033Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9073

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 11522

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, JA
SUBJECT: "MOONLIGHT PROGRAM"

REF: (A) STATE A-2031 (C-SI-8-51818), (B) TOKYO A-83

1. "MOONLIGHT PROJECT" IS POPULAR NAME FOR BUDGET ITEM ENTITLED "ENERGY CONSERVATION" WHICH WAS INTRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE MITI/AIST BUDGET FOR JFY 1978 (BEGINNING APRIL 1). AS REPORTED IN REPAIR B ON GOJ S&T BUDGET FOR FY 1978, FUNDING FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION R&D (MOONLIGHT PROJECT) IS YEN 1,978 MILLION. THIS IS UP 94.7 PERCENT FROM JFY 1977 FUNDING LEVEL FOR ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TOGETHER TO FORM "MOONLIGHT".

2. DOE TOKYO PERIODIC REPORT, COPIES OF WHICH ARE SENT TO DEPT., HAS REFERRED TO PROGRAM. REFERENCES ARE: JULY 22, 1977 ISSUE, PAGE 2; OCT. 1, 1977 ISSUE, PAGE 11; APRIL 5, 1978 ISSUE, PAGE 13. APRIL 1 ISSUE CONTAINS VIRTUALLY ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION (HIGH-EFFICIENCY GAS TURBINE RESEARCH IS A NEW ITEM FOR 1978).

3. ONLY ADDITIONAL INFO AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY, AFTER
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CONCERTED EFFORT TO LOCATE MITI DOCUMENTS IN JAPANESE ON
MOONLIGHT PROGRAM, IS FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN OF FY 78 BUDGET:

ENERGY CONSERVATION	FY 1978	1977	RATE OF
TECHNOLOGY R&D	(A)	(B)	INCREASE (A/B)
EXPENDITURE			

1. LARGE-SCALE ENERGY 1,365 YEN 763 YEN 78.9 PERCENT
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT
(WASTE HEAT UTILIZATION,
MHD, GAS TURBINE)
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2. SUBSIDIES TO PRIVATE 451 144 213.2 PERCENT
INDUSTRY FOR ENERGY CON-
SERVATION TECHNOLOGY
DEVELOPMENT

3. PIONEERING AND FUNDA- 114 99 15.2 PERCENT
MENTAL ENERGY CONSERVATION
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

4. STANDARDIZATION 37 10 270 PERCENT

5. GOJ SHARE OF EXPENDITURE 11 0 --
UNDER IEA CASCADING AGREEMENT

TOTAL 1,978 1,016# 94.7 PERCENT

#INDICATES EXPENDITURE FOR PROJECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN BROUGHT
TOGETHER UNDER THE MOONLIGHT PROJECT.

4. COMMENT: INSPECTION OF DATA IN ABOVE TABLE CONFIRMS
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THAT MOONLIGHT PROGRAM IS REALLY ONLY A REDESIGNATION OF
EXISTING PROGRAMS, PROBABLY FOR PR PURPOSES IN ATTRACTING
ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DIET. IN
FACT, SOME EXCEPTION MIGHT BE TAKEN TO INCLUDING MHD
(AN ENERGY CONVERSION PROCESS) AND STORAGE BATTERIES UNDER
A CONSERVATION LABEL, SINCE OTHER ASPECTS OF MITI'S NON-
NUCLEAR ENERGY R&D PROGRAM WOULD ALSO FIT THIS STRETCHED
DEFINITION. FOR EXAMPLE, HYDROGEN GENERATION AND STORAGE--
ONE OF FOUR MAJOR COMPONENTS OF MITI SUNSHINE PROGRAM--ALSO
INVOLVES ENERGY CONVERSION AND STORAGE. PAUCITY OF INFO
IN JAPANESE ON MOONLIGHT PROGRAM AND RELATIVELY LOW FUNDING
LEVEL INDICATES THAT PROGRAM IS IN INFANCY STAGE; MITI
WILL TRY TO INCREASE FUNDING IN SUCCESSIVE YEARS, AND IT
REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF MITI IS ANY MORE SUCCESSFUL WITH
MOONLIGHT THAN IT WAS WITH SUNSHINE.

4. PROBABLY MORE SIGNIFICANT IS BILL NOW BEFORE DIET
ENTITLED, "BILL CONCERNING THE RATIONALIZATION OF THE USE
OF ENERGY". WHEN AND IF ENACTED, IT WILL GIVE MITI BROAD
POWERS TO ENFORCE ENERGY CONSERVATION IN INDUSTRY THROUGH
ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE. THIS IN TURN WILL PROVIDE INCEN-
TIVE TO JAPANESE INDUSTRY TO DEVELOP ENERGY-SAVING

TECHNOLOGY WITH PRIVATE FUNDS--THE LATTER BEING ALMOST
CERTAIN TO EXCEED THE MOONLIGHT BUDGET BY A CONSIDERABLE
AMOUNT. ENERGY CONSERVATION PRACTICE
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IN JAPANESE INDUSTRY IS ALREADY AT A HIGH LEVEL; FOR
EXAMPLE, ACCORDING TO A MITI DOCUMENT, THE ENERGY REQUIRED
TO PRODUCE A TON OF STEEL IN JAPAN IS ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF
WHAT IS REQUIRED IN THE U.S. EMBASSY HAS TRANSLATION OF
DIET ENERGY CONSERVATION BILL BUT HAD NOT PLANNED TO
TRANSMIT IT UNTIL ENACTMENT OCCURRED. IF TEXT DESIRED,

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 TOKYO 11522

PLEASE NOTIFY AND IT WILL BE SENT BY CABLE. END COMMENT.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, CONSERVATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO11522
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780262-0144
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780624/aaaaauqe.tel
Line Count: 153
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: df421782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE A-2031, 78 TOKYO A-83
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2221579
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOONLIGHT PROGRAM
TAGS: ENRG, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/df421782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014